

OUR YANKEE FOREFATHERS

TRIBUTES TO THEM BY BROOKLYN NEW-
ENGLANDERS.

SPEECHES AT THEIR ANNUAL DINNER BY THE
GOVERNOR OF MASSACHUSETTS, MR. DEPEW,
PROFESSOR RIHS DAVIDS, THE REV. S. A.

ELIOT, MAYOR SCHRIENR AND
CONGRESSMAN HENDRIX.

Puritan fare in the shape of tiny pots of baked beans was served to the guests at the annual dinner of the New-England Society in Brooklyn last evening. But the beans were served with a fine fillet of beef, and all the accompaniments of a banquet put on the table in the highest style of modern culinary skill. The memory of the forefathers was preserved in the badge of the society, which bore a representation of the Mayflower, and on the menu, which bore a picture of the Pilgrim leaders in council. A Pilgrim hat covered the ice cream. The assembly-rooms of the Academy of Music, in Montague-st., where the dinners have been eaten for the last fifteen years, was patriotically adorned with flags. Above the table of honor was the banner of the society, and the shields of six New-England States flanked it.

About 250 members of the society sat at the ten tables which stretched across the brilliantly lighted hall. Upon the platform at the table of honor were the speakers and other invited guests. Robert D. Benedict, the head of the society, presided. On his right was the seat of Chauncey M. Depew, who, however, did not come until the dinner was nearly finished. Out of compliment to him the orchestra played "The Bowery," and the audience cheered. On the left of the president was Governor Frederick T. Greenhalge, of Massachusetts; with them sat Professor T. W. Rhys Davids, of London; the Rev. Dr. Charles H. Hall, John Winslow, Rear-Admiral D. L. Braine, Mayor Charles A. Schreiner, General Nelson A. Miles, Joseph C. Hendrix, member of Congress; the Rev. Samuel A. Elliot, of the Unitarian Church of the Saviour; H. D. Polhemus, of the St. Nicholas Society, and J. A. Clary, of the St. Patrick's Society.

SOME OF THE OTHERS PRESENT.

At the other tables were about 250 members

of the society. Among them were:

Thomas Moore, Professor Franklin W. Hooper, A. A. Low, F. B. Candler, Ethan Allen Doty, A. D. Wheelock, Nelson G. Carman, George P. Merrill, ex-Judge George G. Reynolds, George M. Olcott, Charles S. Whitney, Frederic A. Ward, William H. Lyon, Murat Halstead, William H. Williams, George H. Fisher, St. Clair McKelway, Joseph A. Burr, Charles A. Moore, the Rev. Dr.

J. Coleman Adams, Rufus L. Scott, James D. Bell, Jesse Johnson, C. N. Chadwick, G. N. Nichols, H. B. Moore, John H. Burtis, L. M. Palmer, A. E. Higgins, Herbert L. Bridgman, Leonard Mood, W. F. Knowlton, W. W. Rossiter, Albert Haley, William Berri, J. S. T. Stranahan, W. H. May, E. H. R. Lyman, Frank Squier, Henry W. Maxwell, George B. Abbott, George S. Southard, Judge Calvin E. Pratt, John F. Swager, General George W. Wingate, J. Edward Swannstrom, Professor F. W. Osborne, R. H. Harriman, Henry Harteau, A. Augustus Healy, J. H. James O. Cleaveland, The Rev. Charles H. Buck, W. C. Redfield, Dr. J. O.

Edwin M. Packard, Cyrus E. Staples, George H. Prentiss, George E. Bartlett, W. H. Taylor, Chauncey C. Richards, R. Ross Appleton, Arthur Gibb, W. H. Hurd, Julian D. Fairchild, W. G. Creamer, S. V. Lowell, Frank Bailey, Isaac H. Cary, H. C. Du Val, Andrew Jacobus, W. C. Anderson, John C. Richards, Henry K. Sheldon, S. Burnham, S. B. Chittenden, Albro J. Newton, S. S. Utter, Dr. William Jarvis, W. B. Davenport, Irving L. Bragdon, William F. Black, Charles W. H. Wallace, M. T. Davidson, George H. Roberts, Francis H. Wilson, James F. Pierce, Sturges Coffin and William Hester.

THE CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS.

When the coffee had been drunk and the cigars were produced, President Robert D. Benedict began the speech-making. He said, in part, that the first of the long series of dinners by which Forefathers' Day had been celebrated was eaten 125 years ago by the Old Colony Club, of Plymouth at the spot where the Pilgrims landed.

The custom had spread far and wide since, wherever sons of New-England had gone. *Mrs* Benedict then contrasted that first dinner with the present one, and referred to the dozen toasts to which responses were made at the first one. In conclusion he paid a high tribute to the work done in New-York by Dr. Parkhurst, a New-Englander, filled with the spirit of the forefathers.

The first toast he proposed was "The President of the United States," which was drunk standing and in silence.

GOVERNOR GREENHALGE'S RESPONSE.
Governor Greenhalge was called upon to **reply** to the toast, "The Day We Celebrate." In his speech the Governor of Massachusetts said, in part:

It is quite appropriate that a celebration of Forefathers' Day should be held here in Brooklyn, the City of Churches, and a city strongly marked by New-England ideas. New-York is cosmopolitan and New-York is not yet New-Englandized, if I may have the permission of "The New-York Sun" to use that word, though a strong gust of Puritan freshness and coolness has just blown through the island from one end to the other, from the Park to the

lowery. (Applause) And it is well, therefore, to come together in Brooklyn, and on Forefathers' Day, 1894, two and three-quarters centuries nearly since the Pilgrim Republic was founded, and take an account of the descendants of the forefathers and of their works in the land of their fathers. And the question is, Does the line bid fair to perpetuate itself and to continue like a parabola into limitless space? It is to be noted at the outset that the fore-

getters, and their children were not mere money-grubbers, not wholly devoted to commerce and wealth, but that their chief products were ideas, and that the wealth was the wealth of the mind, and the soul, and the systems and lofty principles, inspired by a sublime religious faith and an absolute trust in Almighty God. Not a day passed that they did not eagerly seek the "light of His countenance," not a line of their laws was written which was not based upon His Holy Word. Mr. Benjamin Kidd, in his

great work in "Social Evolution," recently published, demonstrates that the chief factor in social evolution among nations is religious belief, that there never has been a rational sanction for the condition of national progress, but that nations march on from strength to strength, build cities, overcome enemies, establish empires, under conditions and influences which are not accepted by mere human reason, but which depend upon a super-

The sphinx of Egypt lies buried in the sands of centuries; it is silent; no gospel falls from its stony lips to guide and bless mankind. Plymouth Rock, too, may be covered by the tides of ocean or hidden beneath the sands, but the Rock is not silent. Its message has gone forth. From that rock, smitten by the rod of the forefathers, have poured forth and will forever flow streams of living water to

develop and fertilize the soil and soul of humanity over not one nation alone, but over all the nations of the earth. (Applause)

In some respects, the New-Englander is quite as much more English than the English themselves, if not more so. He has changed less. In other respects he is still gentler. He is passionately attached to law and order, to justice, to liberty and equality. He is tenacious of his opinion, conservative and yet liberal and tolerant to others. He readily adapts himself to new places and new associates, but the adaptation is only skin deep. He retains his ideas, his tastes, his peculiarities. How many of the gentlemen here have risen discontented

from a banquet like this, trofi a toast, and then
to explore the two sides of a so-called dinner
(laughter and applause.) How many are there
who have felt keenly one defect of an other-
wise perfect wife viz., that not being a New-
England woman she could not quite give that
sacred touch of grace to that brightest glory of the
morning—buckwheat cakes? (Renewed laughter.)
And it must be a full, old, narrow mind which
fails to perceive that the intestine of a dinner
must be well strewn with cake, beans and fishballs upon
the one hand, and the maintenance of civil and

